

Atty. Docket No.: SIRF.P216.US.C1

Patent 10/600,174

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. Claim 21 is amended herein. No claims have been allowed.

Claim Objections

Claims 21-23 were objected to for including the articles "the" and "a". Applicants have amended claim 21 to correct the informality. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to claims 21-23, and request allowance of the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-5, and 24-28 were allowed. Claims 8-12, and 18 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of the base claims have been overcome with the remarks below.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 6, 7, 13-17, 19, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by King et al. (U.S. Patent 5,893,044), hereinafter "King".

King discloses a real time clock ("RTC") apparatus for faster acquisition of GPS signals. Referring to Figure 2 and column 5, lines 5-47, King teaches transferring accurate GPS time to the RTC 30 during periods when the GPS receiver is tracking satellites. The accurate GPS time and the total N and M bit counts (generated by the RTC), as read during a measurement epoch, are stored in memory. When power is turned off, the RTC continues to operate. On start-up, time is transferred from the RTC to the time base 11 of the GPS receiver. The time transfer is performed with the N-bit ripple counter 38 and the flip-flops 32, adding the change in time recorded by the RTC to the last known value of GPS time. The method allows a time reference signal to be transferred from the RTC to the GPS receiver so that the GPS receiver can usually acquire satellites more quickly than if it did not have the time reference as a starting point.

Applicants respectfully submit that King lacks at least one element of claim 6, and

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therefore, claim 6 is not anticipated by King. For example, King does not disclose or suggest a brownout detection circuit coupled to the RTC, wherein the brownout detection circuit is configured to detect a loss of RTC clock cycles. As King explains (see Figure 2 and column 4, lines 57 - column 5, line 12), the flip-flops 32 are for synchronizing the GPS receiver time base 11 with the real-time clock circuit (which includes the low power oscillator 15, and n-bit ripple counters 38 and 36). The flip-flops 32 capture the output of the ripple counter 38. The clock signal 33 of the flip-flops 32 is generated by the receiver time base circuit 11, so as to capture the count in the RTC 30 at each 1KHz edge. A stated difference from prior art receivers is that time is available to a resolution of about 1/32 of 1 millisecond, rather than 1 second. The King disclosure simply fails to describe or suggest a detection circuit of any kind configured to detect a loss of RTC clock cycles. In the King apparatus, the RTC would eventually fail to provide sufficiently accurate time, with no warning given by detection of loss of clock cycles. For this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is not anticipated by King, and is therefore allowable over the cited art.

Applicants further submit that dependent claims 7-11 depend from claim 6 and include further limitations thereon, and are therefore allowable over the prior art for the same reasons.

Regarding independent claim 13, Applicants respectfully request that the discussion of claim 6 above be applied here as well. King lacks any teaching or suggestion of a detection circuit as claimed. For this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is not anticipated by King, and is therefore allowable over the cited art. Applicants further submit that dependent claims 14-20 depend from claim 13 and include further limitations thereon, and are therefore allowable over the prior art for the same reasons.

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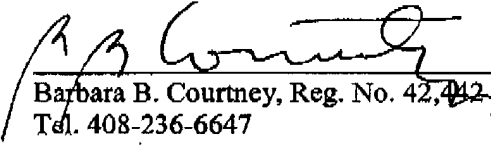
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the objections and rejection have been overcome, and claims 1-28 are in condition for allowance. The allowance of the claims is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if there are any issues that remain to be resolved prior to allowance of the claims.

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Please charge deposit account 501914 for any fees due in connection with this Office Action response.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 7, 2004
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